Islamic confederation of Pakistan and Afghanistan

891. SHRI KAPIL VERMA :
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have seen an Indian agency report dated February 9, originating, from Moscow, quoting the Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman, Mr. Gennady Gerasimov as saying that the Pakistan President, Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan had told reporters on February 6, that he was for an Islamic conferderation of Pakistan and Afghanistan; if so, what is Government's information about this move and what is their reaction thereto;

(b) whether Government are aware of Afghan leader, Shri Najibullah's charge that Pakistan is amassing troops at Afghan border and might invade Afghanistan to annexe it and make it Pakistan's fifth province ; if so, what is Government's information about Pakistani moves and what is their reaction in the matter; and

(c) what is India's role in the current crisis in Afghanistan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir ; A Pakistan Foreign Office spokesman has refuted the remarks attributed to President Ghulam Ishaq Khan on a Pakistan-Afghanistan confederation.

(b) Yes, Sir ; While the Pakistan Foreign Office spokesman has denied the massing of their troops on the Afghan border, President Najibullah as well the Soviet spokesman have affirmed that this has taken place.

(c) India is in favour of stoppage of further bloodshed in Afghanistan, strict implementation of Geneva Accords and a peaceful political settlement would preserve the nonaligned and Independent character of Afghanistan. We are also of the view that the Afghans themselves should be allowed to decide upon the nature and form of their Government without external interference.

नडियाड-कपड़वंज-मोडासा रेल परियोजना का पूरा किया जाना

892. **श्री मीर्जा इर्शादबेग** : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि नडियाद-कपडवंज मोडासा रेल परियोजना आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान ही पूरी हो जायेगी और यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ;

(ख) इस प्रयोजनार्थ कितनी धन राशि की आवश्यकता है और इस वर्ष के दौरान उसमें से कितने प्रतिशत धनराशि का आवंटन किया जायेगा;

(ग) इस संबंध में नया अनुमानित व्यय कितना है; और

(घ) क्या इस संबंध मे कुछ संसद सदस्यों ने एक अभ्यावेदन दिया है यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है और उस पर क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री महावीर प्रसाद) : (क) से (घ) पिछले चार वर्षों के दौरान संसाधनों की अत्यधिक तंगी के कारण नडियाड-कपड़वंज मोडासा परियोजना के लिए कोई धन राशि आवंटित करना सम्भव नहीं हो सका। तथापि क्षेत्र की जनता की ओर से की गयी निरन्तर मांगों पर 1989-90 के बजट मे इस परियोजना के लिए 2 करोड़ रुपये की राशि आवंटित की गयी है। तथापि इसका पूरा होना आगामी वर्षों में धनराशि की उपलब्धता पर निर्भर करेगा। इस 105 कि०मी० लम्बी

परियोजना की लागत जिसमें 45 कि० मी० आमान परिवर्तन तथा 60 कि०मी० नयी लाइन का निर्माण शामिल है लगभग 75 करोड़ रुपये होगी।

Boeing service on Delhi Hyderabad Sector

893. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a heavy waitlist of passengers on Delhi Hyderabad sector ;

(b) whether the Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism had committed long ago to introduce an additional Boeing service between Delhi and Hyderabad ; and

(c) if so, what are the reason for delay in introducing the said service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL) : There is no heavy waitlist.

(b) and (c) Augmentation of capacity between Delhi and Hyderabad by Indian airlines will depend upon availability of sufficient aircraft capacity and adequate traffic potential.

Involvement of private sector in the development of major ports

894. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India has suggested involvement of private sector in the development and modernisation of major ports in the country, by clear demarcation of operational responsibilities between the public and the private sectors ; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) and (b) The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India in its National Seminar on Shipping Ports and Containerisation in Deccember, 1988 has made a number of recommendations, including private participation in the development and modernisation of major Ports, etc. These recommendations were forwarded to the Government in February, 1989 and have been referred to various concerned agencies for their comments. It is not possible to react to these recommendations at this stage.

Withdrawal of Westland helicopters

895. SHRI PARAVATHANENI UPENDRA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state whether Government are considering to withdraw the Westland helicopter from service, in view of the defects found in these helicopters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL) : No, Sir. The presumption about the defects is not totally based on factual position.

Development of land by Nhava Sheva Port Trust

896. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the Maharashtra Government has urged Government to ask Nhava Sheva Port Trust to bear the cost of development of